

REMARKS

The application has been amended to place the application in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Claims 26-38 and 44-47 are pending in the application. Claims 26-33, 38, 44 and 47 are withdrawn from further consideration as being drawn to a non-elected species.

The claims are amended to address the 35 USC §112, second paragraph rejections noted in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 on page 3 of the Official Action.

Specifically, the phrase "consisting substantially of" is replaced with the phrase "consisting essentially of". The phrase "fillers selected from" is replaced with the phrase "fillers selected from the group consisting of". In addition, the phrase "tetraphenylolethane type epoxy resin" is replaced with the phrase "tetraphenylolethane epoxy resin".

Claims 34-37, 45 and 46 are rejected as unpatentable over OSADA et al. 6,160,078 and Japanese Patent 9-268219 in view of Japanese Patent Nos. 57-38814 and 58-150581. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The only section under which the OSADA et al. patent could be prior art is 35 USC §102(e). The earliest §102(e) date of OSADA et al. is its November 10, 1998 U.S. filing date. Applicants claim priority to Japanese Appln. No. 10-299606 filed on October 21, 1998, which antedates OSADA et al.'s earliest

\$102(e) date. Applicants submit herewith a verified English translation of the Japanese priority document to perfect the claim to priority and remove OSADA et al. as a prior art reference.

Since OSADA et al. is unavailable as prior art, the rejection set forth in the Official Action cannot be maintained.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix:

The Appendix includes the following item:

- verified English translation of Japanese Appln. No. 10-299606